

REMARKS

Claim 6 has been cancelled and claims 8, 9 and 12 have been amended. Claims 1-5, 8, 9 and 12 remain for further consideration. No new matter has been added.

The rejections shall be taken up in the order presented in the Official Action.

1. Claims 6, 8, 9 and 12 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for allegedly containing subject matter which is not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to a person of ordinary skill in the art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention at the time of the invention.

Claim 6 has been cancelled. Claim 12 has been amended. The Examiner's detailed read of the claims pointing out this latent error in the claim 12 is noted and appreciated.

2-3. Claim 1 currently stands rejected for allegedly being anticipated by the subject matter disclosed in U.S. Patent 6,492,208 to Cheng (hereinafter "Cheng").

Cheng was filed on September 28, 2000. The present application claims priority to DE 100 05 811.6 filed February 10, 2000. A copy of the English language translation to the German priority document is enclosed herewith. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Cheng is not prior art to the claimed invention.

4-5. Claims 3-5 currently stand rejected for allegedly being obvious in view of Cheng.

It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is also moot since Cheng is not prior art to the claimed invention.


6. A copy of the English language translation to the German priority document is enclosed herewith.

7. The indication that claim 2 contains allowable subject matter is noted and appreciated. However, claim 2 is not being rewritten since the rejection of claim 1 is moot.

For all the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6, 8-9 and 12 is respectfully requested.

If a telephone interview could assist in the prosecution of this application, please call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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